

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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1. (currently amended) A portable communication apparatus (1), comprising:
a microphone(14) and;
a processing device (31) having an input (37) operatively coupled to the microphone;
wherein the processing device is adapted to generate a digital output signal from a first electric signal received from the microphone, ~~the portable communication apparatus further comprising;~~
a reading device (17, 52) adapted to generate a second electric signal from an optical or magnetic input signal, ~~characterized in that;~~
wherein the processing device (31) is operatively coupled to the reading device (17, 52), so such that the second electric signal from the reading device may be received at the input (37) of the processing device.
 2. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The portable communication apparatus as in claim 1, further comprising a switching device (22) having a first input (26) coupled to the microphone (14), a second input (28) coupled to the reading device (17, 52), an output (30) coupled to the processing device (31), and a control input (24) for selecting whether the first or the second electric signal is to be forwarded to the processing device.
 3. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The portable communication apparatus as in claim 1 or 2, wherein the reading device (17) comprises an optical emitter (44) and an optical receiver (50) for reading information stored in a barcode (42).
 4. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The portable communication apparatus as in claim 1 or 2, wherein the reading device (52) comprises a magnetic sensor, ~~such as a coil (52)~~, for reading information stored in a magnetic strip (54) on a card (53).

5. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The portable communication apparatus as in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the processing device (31) comprises an amplifier (32), an A/D converter(34), and a digital signal processor (36).

6. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The portable communication apparatus as in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the apparatus is a radio telephone, preferably a mobile telephone (1).

7. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The portable communication apparatus as in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the reading device (17, 52) is integrated inside an apparatus housing (10) of the portable communication apparatus (1).

8. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The portable communication apparatus as in ~~any of claims 1-6~~ claim 1, wherein the reading device (17, 52) is located outside an apparatus housing (10) of the portable communication apparatus (1) and is connected through an accessory connector (16) provided in the apparatus housing.

9. (new) The portable communication apparatus as in claim 4, wherein the magnetic sensor comprises a coil.

10. (new) The portable communication apparatus as in claim 6, wherein the radiotelephone comprises a mobile telephone.